

Spring 1-15-2000

ENG 1002C-019-048: Composition and Literature

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1002C-019
-048

COURSE GUIDELINES

English 1002-C, Spring 2000

Instructor: Tammy Veach

Office: Coleman 339-C

Office Phone: 581-6295 E-mail: cttfv@eiu.edu

Office Hours: 10:30 - 11:00, 12:00 - 1:00 MWF and by appt.

Texts: Kennedy & Gioia, *An Introduction to Poetry*
Charters, *The Story and Its Writer*
Klaus, Gilbert, & Field, *Stages of Drama*

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES:

This course is designed to make you better readers, writers, and thinkers, but I hope it will also encourage you to enjoy and appreciate literature. Along the way, we will examine pieces from each of the three principle literary genres (poetry, fiction, and drama), works written by men and women from culturally diverse backgrounds. And because this is also a composition course, we'll write quite a bit (at least 5,000 words, probably much more than that) about this literature. Expect to spend approximately two hours reading, analyzing, and writing about each day's assignment before coming to class.

ATTENDANCE/ MAKE-UP- & LATE WORK: If you miss class, for whatever reason, it is your responsibility to find out what we did that day; illnesses or emergencies do not exempt you from meeting class obligations. Your syllabus is merely tentative, so check with me to see if changes were made in your absence. Your regular attendance is important—attendance is taken at the start of every class, and while I do not have a formal attendance policy (e.g. "Miss 3 classes and your grade is lowered a letter"), unexcused absences *will indirectly—yet often substantially*—hurt your grade in this class, esp. in the following ways:

- Work that was completed in class when you were absent (exams, quizzes, in-class writing responses, etc.) can be made up *only* if your absence is excused (read on for a discussion of excused absences)
- Any work turned in late (for any reason except an excused absence) is graded down one letter grade for each day it's late (e.g. If an assignment was due Monday but is turned in Thursday, it is lowered by three letter grades)
- Your "daily" grade is based almost entirely upon contributions to class discussions and in-class writing activities – if you're not here, you can't participate in these activities, and your daily grade suffers!

Other important attendance/ make-up work/ late work info:

- Excused absences are granted only for *serious and verifiable* reasons (e.g. illnesses documented with a doctor's note, inclement weather for commuters, documented death in the family, etc.) – NOT for matters of personal convenience such as travel arrangements, appointments with advisors, job interviews, oversleeping, etc.
- Work to be missed due to participation in an Official University function must be completed **BEFORE** you leave.
- Absences on exam days/ assignment due dates are particularly suspicious and will require strong verification.
- No assignments will be accepted more than one week after the due date; a grade of "zero" will be recorded.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: Contact the Coordinator of the Office of Disability Services (581-6583) as early in the term as possible if you have a documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodations. Please let me know, too, and realize that I can be of greater assistance to you if I am made aware of your disability early in the semester.

GRADING: English department standards will be used to determine grades on all written work. These are rather stringent guidelines, evaluating not only the quality of your ideas but also your writing style, method of organization, ability to avoid grammatical mistakes, etc. You will be graded on a variety of activities—essays, exams, reading responses, participation in class discussion, and possibly other activities, such as quizzes, but the quality of your writing will be the biggest determinant of your grade in this class. In calculating your semester grade, I use a 90-80-70 scale. I anticipate assigning activities totaling 1,000 points for the semester, thus 900 for an A, 800 for a B, and 700 for a C. If I make any changes to this total (for example, adding extra writing assignments if needed or giving reading quizzes if class discussion is weak), you will be forewarned, and such changes will also affect the point totals required to earn a particular grade, but I'll still use a 90-80-70 scale. English 1002 is graded on an A, B, C, and NC (no credit) basis, so **You must earn 700 points (or 70%) to pass this class.**

TENTATIVE REQUIREMENTS AND THEIR POINT TOTALS:

- **ESSAYS, 550 POINTS**
 - Essay #1, poetry, minimum of 750 words long, 100 points—Mandatory conferences
 - Essay #2, fiction, min. of 1,000 words long, 200 points
 - Essay #3, drama, min. of 1,250 words long, 250 points—Use of outside sources/ research required

- **EXAMS, 300 POINTS**—all are primarily essay in nature; be prepared to write!!
 - Exam #1, poetry, 100 points
 - Exam #2, fiction, 100 points
 - Exam #3, drama, 100 points (given during finals week, but NOT a comprehensive exam)

- **DAILY GRADE: PARTICIPATION, DISCUSSION, AND IN-CLASS WORK, 150 POINTS:**

If we're to have a class based on discussion rather than tedious lectures, your participation is crucial. You must show up and you must speak out in our discussions—BOTH factors will be used heavily in determining your daily grade. Another significant portion of your daily grade is in-class writing. On several different occasions (all unannounced), you'll be asked to write about some aspect of the current reading assignment for ~10 - 15 minutes. Each response will be graded either + (excellent), check + (good), check (okay), check - (something's lacking), - (major problems), or missing (no credit). Other factors that go along with a solid daily grade include having a positive attitude, arriving prepared and on time, paying attention in class, treating your classmates with respect, and so forth. If I find class discussion to be particularly weak, I'll assume that this is in part because you are not reading the material fully, so I'll give unannounced reading quizzes (something I hope I will not have to do). If this *does* happen, the semester point total will be altered, though I will still grade on a 90-80-70 scale.

CONFERENCES: We'll have mandatory conferences for the first essay during which we will discuss your rough draft of this assignment and any other questions you may have, but I encourage you to come by any time that you have a question or problem—that's what I'm here for! Don't hesitate—typically, I can be of greatest help the sooner I know of any difficulties you're having in class—waiting until the day before an assignment is due or until the last week of the semester isn't allowing yourself time to work & improve. If my office hours don't fit your schedule, we can arrange a conference at a mutually-convenient time.

A QUICK NOTE ON RESEARCH: In order to pass this class, you must write an essay in which you incorporate material from outside sources (Essay # 3). We will *only briefly* review research methods and MLA parenthetical documentation, so see me *immediately* if 1) You've never written a research paper, 2) You've never used MLA documentation, or 3) You've had problems with documentation and/or plagiarism on previous research assignments—you'll need to allow time for extra help w/ this assign.

VOICE MAIL/ E-MAIL: While I don't give out my unlisted home phone number, I do encourage you to call me at my office #, even at times other than my posted office hours. If I'm not in, my phone is equipped with voice mail, so be sure to leave a message **INCLUDING YOUR PHONE NUMBER**, and I'll get back to you shortly—I typically pick up my messages daily. (If my office mate answers, simply tell her you need to leave me a voice mail message; otherwise, she'll dutifully take your message, but I won't receive it until I return to the office, sometimes a day or two after your call. . . .) Feel free, too, to contact me via e-mail (cftfv@eiu.edu), but keep in mind that I only check my e-mail messages on MWF (when I arrive and before I leave).

A NOTE FOR COMPUTER SECTIONS (those that meet in rooms 302, 303, 306, 340): The technology we have available to us will enhance our class dramatically — making it easier for us to write and revise our work, to share our writing with our classmates and others, to locate pertinent background information using the Internet, etc., but the technology is only a tool: we will focus upon developing our own writing skills and upon analyzing the literature we'll read for class. I'll warn you, too, that the system is not perfect; from time to time "glitches" in the system will arise, and we will need to be patient and flexible when dealing with these unavoidable problems. Because of potential computer-related problems, I caution you to save your work frequently (every 5 - 10 minutes), to create — on a separate disk — at least one back-up file for every document you write, to store all of your work in Rich Text Format (so other computers will be able to "read" your work), and to store a copy of your essays and other writing in the "WORK" folder for our section (I'll explain how to do this later). **A note on computer etiquette:** The computers are to be used only for your work for this class and only when I have instructed you to do so. You will be asked to leave if you use the computer when I have not instructed you to do so, for other purposes than our work in this class— e-mail, surfing the 'Net, researching a topic or doing an assignment for another class, etc., or for offensive purposes (e.g. pornography).

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT'S POLICY ON PLAGIARISM:

Any teacher who discovers an act of plagiarism—'the appropriation or imitation of the language, ideas, and/or thoughts of another author, and representation of them as one's original work' (Random House Dictionary of the English Language)—has the right and the responsibility to impose upon the guilty student an appropriate penalty, up to and including immediate assignments of a grade of F for the assigned essay and a grade of F for the course, and to report the incident to the Judicial Affairs Office.

TENTATIVE SYLLABUS, SPRING 2000
ENG 1002-C, VEACH

(P = Poetry book; F = Fiction/ Short Stories book; D = Drama book; H = Handout; R = on reserve at Library)

JANUARY

- M 10 – CH 303 – Intro to course and policies; writing sample
W 12 – CH 303 – Poetry terminology (H); tips for approaching poetry (1-5); "Those Winter Sundays" (P 424) and "Disillusionment of Ten O'clock" (P 81)
F 14 – CH 303 – Distinguishing good from bad: "Traveling Through the Dark" (P 336), "Thoughts on Capital Punishment" (P 335);

M 17 – CH 302– MLK BIRTHDAY: NO CLASS
W 19 – CH 302 – Speaker: "Mending Wall" (P 415), "The Mother" (P 394)
F 21 – CH 302 – Speaker: "Patterns"; Imagery: "My Grandmother's Love Letters" (Both H), "Piano" (P 6)

M 24 – CH 303 – Imagery: "Dulce Et Decorum Est" (P 41), "Anthem for Doomed Youth" (P 461) & "The Fish" (P 94)
W 26 – CH 303 –Diction: "The Elder Sister" (H) & "Ex-Basketball Player" (P 497)
F 28 – CH 303 – Tone: "Race' Politics" and "Still I Rise" (both H) and "Harlem" (P 373)

M 31 – CH 302 – "Rape" (H); "Lady Lazarus" (P 296); Essay # 1 Assigned – see P 563 - 584

FEBRUARY

- W 2 – CH 302 – Closed Form vs. Open Form: "Do Not Go Gentle into That Good Night" (P 222), "This Living Hand" (P 206); "Sestina" (P 224), "Let Not the Marriage of True Minds" (P 213); "What Lips My Lips Have Kissed. . ." (P 215), "First Practice" (P 240)
F 4 – CH 302 – Finish Form. Theme: "The Lake Isle of Innisfree" (P 3), "A Blessing" (P 508)

M 7 – CH 303 – An Author's Work–Anne Sexton: "Her Kind" (P 29), "Cinderella" (P 284); "To a Friend. . .," "The Starry Night," "The Truth the Dead Know," "The Lost Ingredient," & "All My Pretty Ones" (All H)

W 9 – CH 303 – Finish Sexton poetry; review for exam
F 11– No Class–Lincoln's Birthday

M 14 – CH 302 EXAM # 1 –POETRY –bring books and notes, your own paper and a pen or pencil
W 16 – No Class–Conferences on Essay # 1 (In my office, CH 339-C)
F 18 – " "

M 21 – " "
W 23 – CH 303 – ESSAY # 1 DUE!!! Elements of fiction lecture. Plot/ Style: "The Story of an Hour" (F 320-21)
F 25 – CH 303 – finish "Story of Hour"; Plot/ Style: "The House on Mango Street" (F 337-8) & "My Name" (F 338)

M 28 – CH 302 – Style: "Hills Like White Elephants" (F 615-18)

MARCH

- W 1 – CH 302 – Point-of-View: "A Rose for Emily" (F 457 - 463); Essay #2 Assigned
F 3 – CH 302 – Setting: "Sonny's Blues" (F 74-97)

M 6 – CH 303 – Tone: "The Things They Carried" (F 1022-35)
W 8 – CH 303 – Symbol: "The Shawl" (F 1098-1101)

MARCH (CONT'D)

F 10 – CH 303 – Symbol: "The Red Convertible" (F 448-55)

M 13, W 15, & F 17: NO CLASS—SPRING BREAK!!!!

M 20 – CH 302 – Theme: "Everything That Rises Must Converge" (F 1080-91)

W 22 – CH 302 – "Harrison Bergeron" (F 1332-35)

F 24 – CH 302 – Humor: "The Kugelmass Episode" (F 32-41); ESSAY # 2 IS DUE !!!!

M 27 – CH 303 – EXAM # 2 – FICTION—bring pen or pencil, books and notes, and your own paper

W 29 – CH 303 – *Hamlet* (R) – Act I only

F 31 – CH 303 " " Acts I & II

APRIL

M 3 – CH 302 " " Acts II and III

W 5 – CH 302 " " Act III ; *Hamlet* video: 4:30 - 9:00 p.m. – Location TBA

F 7 – CH 302 " " No Class – view video of *Hamlet* if you were unable to attend Wed. nite

M 10 – CH 303 " " Acts IV and V

W 12 – CH 303 Finish " "

F 14 – CH 303 *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* (D 892 - 928)

M 17 – CH 302 " "

W 19 – CH 302 " "

F 21 – CH 302 *Death of a Salesman* (D 844 - 881)

M 24 – CH 303 " "

W 26 – CH 303 " " & Optional video 4:30 - 7:00 p.m. – Location TBA

F 28 – CH 303 ESSAY # 3 DUE!!! LAST CLASS DAY!!! Finish D of S; review for final exam; study guide for exam handed out

MAY

FINAL EXAM SCHEDULE:

11:00 CLASS: CH 302 Wed, May 3, 10:15 - 12:15

MW (3:00) CLASS: Thurs, May 4, 2:45 - 4:45

NOTE: All students are expected to take the final exam at their scheduled times. Exceptions will be made ONLY for students who have 3 or more finals scheduled on the same day. Make-up times for these students will be arranged ONLY if I am notified of the conflict NO LATER THAN THE LAST CLASS SESSION ON FRIDAY, APRIL 30 (do not leave me a voice-mail or other message about this; approach me in person). Please bring a copy of your class schedule with you when you meet with me to make these arrangements.

TENTATIVE SYLLABUS, SPRING 2000
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W 9 – Finish Sexton poems; catch up on other poems as needed; review for poetry exam

M 14 – EXAM # 1 --POETRY --bring books and notes, your own paper and a pen or pencil
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